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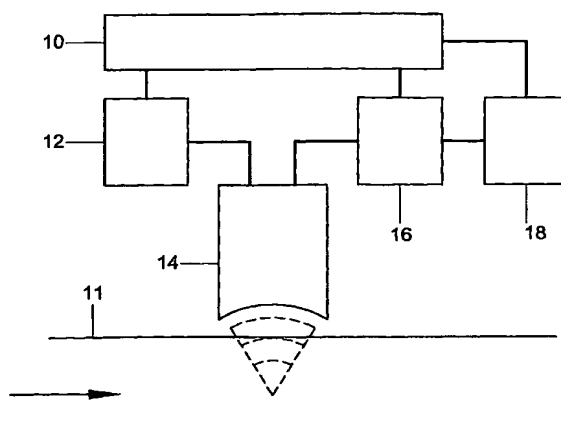
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION ABOUT THE SIZE DISTRIBUTION OF MACRO-SCOPIC PARTICLES IN A LIQUID



(57) Abstract: On the basis of a series of reflection measurements on a liquid, parameters are calculated which describe a particle size distribution of particles in the liquid. In each reflection measurement, a signal beam is generated in the liquid and a value of a property such as the amplitude of a reflection on a particle in the signal beam is measured. Using maximum likelihood estimation, the parameters of the particle size distribution are estimated, on the basis of an expression for a probability of the measured values as a function of the measured values. The expression used contains a first factor for the probability of a reflection measurement of which a reflection with the measured value forms part, corrected with a second factor for the probability that there is not also a reflection with a dominating value of the property, which would mask the measured values, forming part of the reflection measurement.



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